

He Saw, and Believed.

John 19:38-20:22

John 19:38

Joseph of Arimathaea.

Matt 27:57 Rich

Mk 15:43 Honorable counselor—a member of the Sanhedrin

Lk 23:50 Good and just man.

Is 53:9 Jesus buried by rich man.

Joseph of Arimathaea, had clout and reputation to make request from Pilate.

Arimathaea: Ramathaim-zophim, 20 miles NW of Jerusalem.

15 miles east of Joppa.

John 19:39

Nicodemus: one of three wealthiest men in Jerusalem.

Until now-- two men secret disciples

What made difference? Calvary!

Galatians 6:14

Phillips: After what the world did to Jesus there could no longer be any compromise for these two believers.

John 19:40

Joseph furnished linen bandages and own new tomb

Nicodemus provided expensive spices.

John 19:41-42

...in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; Somewhere close in proximity to the place He was crucified.

Jews' preparation day Friday.

Needed everything done before Sabbath

New sepulchre---Never used.

Didn't stink.

Psa 16:10. no corruption.

Natural cave hewn out of rock or solid cliff. Mk 15:46

Rolled a heavy stone across front of cave. Mk 16:4

Seal placed over it at request of Sanhedrin. Matt 27:66

Hend: a cord covered with clay or wax, on which a seal has been impressed. A guard was placed at the entrance.

John 20:1-5

John and Peter in awe....

Truth not gripped them.

John 20:6-7

Here was all the clues.

Body gone.

No evidence of vandalism or theft.

Everything in order:

John 20:8-9 ... **he saw, and believed.**

Hughes: ...*He had risen right through the grave clothes. Of course! All the clues pointed to that conclusion. Then and there he believed. It was incredibly gloriously true. Jesus was alive!*

... as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.

Psalm 16:10 Luke 24:25

John 20:10-11

Sunday

5 AM: Mary Magdalene and the other ladies head for sepulcher.

Finds tomb empty.

Runs to tell Peter and John

5:30 AM: Other women arrive. Mk 16:2

Angel appears ... sends message to disciples. Matt 28:5f; Mk 16:5.

6:00 AM: Others arrive at tomb. Lk 24:1f; Mk 16:1.

Two angels give instruction.. Lk 24:4.

6:30 AM: Peter and John arrive at tomb.

Mary Magdalene follows them...

Other women give good news to other disciples. Lk 24:10.

7:00 AM: Jesus reveals Himself to Mary Magdalene. Jn 20: 14-18; Mk 16:9.

Reveals Himself to other women.

Jesus tells them to tell disciples to meet Him in Galilee Matt 28:9.

John 20:11

Wept: To wail. Brokenhearted.

Stooped down: wanted to see for herself what inside.

John 20:12

At both ends of the ledge which had been carved out of the rock sat two angels.

Phillips: *The world should have been there with its homage....All Jerusalem should have been arriving with triumphant palms.*

Instead the world stayed away and the shining ones from glory came instead.....

John 20:13

No attempt on part of angels to explain.

They were looking at a figure standing behind her.

John 20:14-19

Sunday PM. Around 8 PM.

Earlier in day met two disciples on road to Emmaus.

Had to have time to get back to Jerusalem Lk 24:13-36.

These women gave report--not taken seriously Mk 16:12-13.

Appeared to Peter Lk 24:34.

19 ... for fear of the Jews,

Fear: Alarmed, frightened, in terror.

Thought next step -- Sanhedrin come after them.

Step 1: Get rid of Jesus.

Step 2: Get rid of His disciples.

Sanhedrin suspected disciples of stealing body.

John 20:19

Jesus didn't enter the conventional way.

Hughes: *He was in the midst though no one had opened the door...*

Peace be unto you.... normal Jewish salutation. Luke 24:37-39

John 20:20

What resurrection mean to us?

John 20:21

Disciples become sent ones.

Phillips: *Theirs was the mighty ordination of the nail pierced hands.*

I will breathe on you and you will be empowered to do task before you!

John 20:22

Breathed on them: breath with force.

Same thought as when God breathed life upon Adam in Gen 2:7.

The job of evangelizing a world-- impossible.

To be effective--power of the Holy Spirit.

So What?

What true if Jesus had stayed in grave?

1. Pulpits resound with empty, meaningless preaching.
1 Cor 15:14
2. Jesus no different than all other religious leaders.
3. Jesus not merit our respect.
John 5:21 John 5:25 John 5:28-29 John 11:23-25 John 14:19
4. Apostles not merit our Respect.
Rom 8:10-11 1 Cor 6:14 Phil 3:21
5. OT writers not merit our Respect.
Dan 12:2 Job 14:14-15 Job 19:25-27 Ps 16:10 Ps 17:15 Isa 26:19
6. Our Faith--Vain. 1 Cor 15:14
7. No Hope for Eternity. 1 Cor 15:17 John 8:21 Eph 2:1 Eph 2:5 Col 2:13
H.P.Lippon: *Faith in the resurrection is the very keystone of the arch of Christian faith, and, when it is removed, all must inevitably crumble into ruin.*
8. All Who died in Faith have no hope. 1 Cor 15:18

Jesus has 3 basic credentials:

1. The impact of His life upon history
2. Fulfilled prophecy
3. His resurrection.